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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



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STATE OF MONTANA

Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau
(406) 444-2821

HELENA, MONTANA 59620

October 28, 1986

RE: Preliminary Environmental Review

Gail G. Fremont, Plum Creek Timber Co., Box 149, Belgrade, MT
Planning Director, Belgrade Planning Board, Belgrade, MT
Board of County Commissioners, Gallatin County, Bozeman, MT
Emery Nelson, R.S., Gallatin Co. Health Dept., Bozeman, MT
Tom Ellerhoff, Environmental Sciences Division, MDHES, Helena, MT
Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Helena, MT
Harold Chambers, State Library, Capitol Complex, Helena, MT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Administrative Rules of Montana, 16.2.604, the following Preliminary Environmental Review has been prepared by the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences concerning the Plum Creek Timber Co. Class III Landfill at Belgrade, MT.

The purpose of the Preliminary Environmental Review is to inform all interested governmental agencies, public groups or individuals of the proposed action and to determine whether or not the action may have a significant effect on the human environment. This Preliminary Environmental Review will be circulated for a period of fifteen (15) days at which time a decision will be made as to our future action.

If you care to comment on this proposed action, please do so within the allotted time.

Sincerely,

JAMES E. LEITER
Solid & Hazardous Waste Bureau

/pm
Encl.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Cogswell Building, Helena, Montana 59601
(406) 444-2821

PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Division/Bureau Environmental Sciences/Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau

Project or Application Plum Creek Timber Class III Solid Waste Disposal Site

Description of Project The Plum Creek Timber Company has applied for a Class III Solid Waste Management System license for a site located in a portion of Section 34, Township 1 North, Range 4 East. The site is being leased by the company and will be used for disposal of gravel, bark, some wood wastes and pieces of concrete. The proposed landfill will not be open to the public. Access to the site will be closed and restricted by gates, fences and locks. Additional comments are addressed on the sheet attached.

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Terrestrial & aquatic life and habitats			X			X
2. Water quality, quantity and distribution				X		
3. Geology & soil quality, stability and moisture			X			X
4. Vegetation cover, quantity and quality			X			X
5. Aesthetics				X		
6. Air quality				X		
7. Unique, endangered, fragile, or limited environmental resources				X		
8. Demands on environmental resources of land, water, air & energy				X		
9. Historical and archaeological sites				X		

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

	Major	Moderate	Minor	None	Unknown	Comments on Attached Pages
1. Social structures and mores				X		
2. Cultural uniqueness and diversity				X		
3. Local and state tax base & tax revenue				X		
4. Agricultural or industrial production				X		
5. Human health				X		
6. Quantity and distribution of community and personal income				X		
7. Access to and quality of recreational and wilderness activities				X		
8. Quantity and distribution of employment				X		
9. Distribution and density of population and housing				X		
10. Demands for government services			X			X
11. Industrial & commercial activity				X		
12. Demands for energy				X		
13. Locally adopted environmental plans & goals				X		
14. Transportation networks & traffic flows				X		

Other groups or agencies contacted or which may have overlapping jurisdiction Gallatin County Health Dept.

Individuals or groups contributing to this PER. _____

Recommendation concerning preparation of EIS No EIS necessary

PER Prepared by: James E. Leiter

Date: October 28, 1986

DHES/ESD-2

POTENTIAL IMPACT ON PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1) Terrestrial and aquatic life and habitats - The site will have a minor impact on terrestrial life forms in the immediate vicinity of the pit. Small mammal species, worms, and insects will be affected. The impact should be unnoticeable and have negligible impact to the human population in the area.

3) Geology and soil quality, stability and moisture - Some of the wastes which will be buried are originally decomposable. The pressure of these materials in the site will cause some slow settling of the finished area over time. The organic materials will also hold some moisture in the fill.

4) Vegetation cover, quantity and quality - The area may be revegetated upon completion of the fill operation. Quantity and quality of the cover vegetation will be largely dependent upon depth and quality of cover soils. Unless particularly cultivated, the vegetation expected upon completion of the site would not be largely different from the normal volunteer growth in the area.

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

10) Demands for government services - Unless nuisance conditions were to develop, there should be little if any need for increased government services; only periodic inspections and assistance to the operator. Due to the "Class III" nature of the landfill, it is extremely unlikely that nuisances will develop.

